

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-23 were pending. In this amendment, claims 2-4, 6-8, 10, 13, 15-18, and 20-22 are amended. In order to expedite issuance of allowed subject matter, claims 1, 5, 14, and 19 are canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Thus, after entry of this amendment, claims 2-4, 6-13, 15-18, and 20-23 will be pending.

Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 7 and 20 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of former base claims 1 and 5. Therefore, claim 7 and its dependent claims 2-4, 6, 8-13, and 22-23 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of former base claims 14 and 19. Therefore, claim 20 and its dependent claims 15-18 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 21 has been amended to include similar limitations to allowable claim 7, and is thus believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 7.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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